Dumping of Steel By Foreign Countries

1950. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign countries are utilising the privileges under WTO to dump Steel in our Country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to stop this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The WTO's Agreement on anti-dumping does not provide any privilege to any Member to dump the goods in any country. In fact, the Agreement enunciates the concept of dumping, the methodology and the procedure of imposing the anti-dumping duty.

Reasons for Importing Steel

1951. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that we import large quantity of Steel despite having our own iron ore deposits;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether we can't become self-sufficient in Steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. India has large deposits of iron ore and limestone which is utilised for steel making. Almost all varieties of steel which are consumed in India are produced indigenously except a very few items like ED/EDD quality of steel mainly used in auto industries, some variety of structural steel etc. The total import of carbon steel for the year 1998-99 was only 6% of its total consumption. Some quantity of steel will always be required to be imported, specially those grades and categories which are required only in small quantities.

Diversion of funds earmarked for Tribal Welfare

1952. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of money that goes for the Tribal Welfare in the State remains unutilised;